

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application in light of the above amendments and following comments is courteously solicited.

The typographical error on line 16 of claim 1 has been corrected.

The abstract has been cancelled and a new abstract substituted therefore which complies with all formal requirements.

Claim 1 has been amended so as to provide proper antecedent basis for "subsequent place".

Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider his rejection of claims 1-10 under 35 U.S.C. 101 as being drawn to non statutory subject matter. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-10 as currently pending is directed to statutory subject matter. The claims as amended are drawn to a gaming machine which comprises a game processing means for executing game processing. The claimed invention is not merely a mathematical algorithm. The claim sets forth specific concrete and tangible results which result from a computer system which imparts a series of functional steps. It is respectfully submitted that the claims are statutory under 35 U.S.C. 101 and the Examiner's rejection should be withdrawn.

With regard to the Examiner's rejection of the previously submitted claims under 35 U.S.C. 102 as being anticipated by

U.S. Patent 5,564,977, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner reconsider his rejection in light of the claim amendments.

While the '977 document discloses a general procedure for showing odds on a display means, the '977 patent does not disclose or render obvious the subject matter as now claimed in independent claims 1-10 as amended. The Examiner's attention is drawn to column 4, lines 32-67 of the '977 patent. Here it is disclosed that three odds are sequentially displayed in three odd columns and that these odds are dynamically updated. However, there is nothing in the '977 patent which describes how these odds are dynamically updated and there is no disclosure as to how this updating is carried out. Claims 1 and 5 specifically set forth correction means for carrying out this updating. Method claims 6, 7 and 9 specifically set forth the correcting step. Neither of the recitations noted above are rendered obvious by the teachings of the cited and applied prior art reference and, accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-10 as amended herein patentably define over the art of record.

An earnest and thorough attempt has been made by the undersigned to resolve the outstanding issues in this case and place same in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions or feels that a telephone or personal interview would

be helpful in resolving any outstanding issues which remain in this application after consideration of this amendment, the Examiner is courteously invited to telephone the undersigned and the same would be gratefully appreciated.

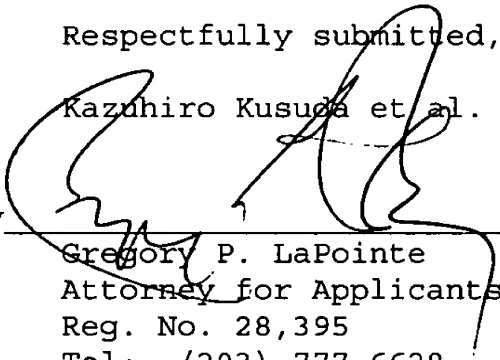
It is submitted that the claims as amended herein patentably define over the art relied on by the Examiner and early allowance of same is courteously solicited.

If any fees are required in connection with this case, it is respectfully requested that they be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-0184.

Respectfully submitted,

Kazuhiro Kusuda et al.

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313" on May 12, 2003.

  
Rachel Piscitelli

Version with markings to show changes made to the claims



(Twice Amended) A gaming machine comprising:

game processing means for executing game processing,  
wherein said game processing means including dividend  
determining means for determining a dividend to be paid to a  
bettor who has won a lottery with a predetermined probability,  
said lottery including a plurality of objects with predetermined  
probabilities of winning, and for indicating the dividend to the  
bettor;

display means for providing an execution result executed by  
said dividend determining means to the bettor[, ] ;

said dividend determining means comprising:

setting means for setting a target payout rate and a  
probability of winning of each of the objects and for setting  
odds on each of the objects based on the target payout rate and  
the probability of winning;

ordering means for arranging the objects in order of the  
probability of winning;

first correction means [or] for approximately correcting  
the odds on the object in a highest place to odds with a  
predetermined number of digits, correcting the probability of  
winning of the object in the highest place based on the  
corrected odds, reflecting the difference between an uncorrected

probability of winning and the corrected probability of winning  
of the object in the probability of winning of the object in a  
subsequent place, [redetermining] predetermined the odds on the  
object in the subsequent place based on the corrected  
probability of winning of the object in the subsequent place,  
and repetitively performing a whole processing for the objects  
in all places; and

second correction means for approximately correcting the  
predetermined odds on the object in last place to odds with a  
predetermined number of digits, [redetermining] predetermining  
the probability of winning based on the approximated odds, and  
again reflecting the difference between the probability of  
winning and the [redetermined] predetermined probability of  
winning at predetermined ratios in the probabilities of winning  
of all the objects, and

wherein said display means displaying the final odds  
obtained by said first and second correction means.

5. (Twice Amended) A gaming machine comprising:  
game processing means for executing game processing,  
wherein said game processing means including dividend  
determining means for determining a dividend to be paid to a  
bettor who has won a lottery with a predetermined probability,  
said lottery including a plurality of objects with predetermined

probabilities of winning, and for indicating the dividend to the bettor;

display means for providing an execution result executed by said dividend determining means to the bettor,

said dividend determining means comprising:

setting means for setting a target payout rate and a probability of winning of each of the objects and for setting provisional odds on each of the objects based on the target payout rate and the probability of winning;

ordering means for arranging the objects in order;

first correction means for approximately correcting the odds on the object in first place to odds with a predetermined number of digits, correcting the probability of winning of the object in the first place based on the corrected odds, reflecting the difference between an uncorrected probability of winning and the corrected probability of winning of the object in the probability of winning of the object in a subsequent place, [redetermining] predetermining the odds on the object in the subsequent place based on the corrected probability of winning of the object in the subsequent place, and repetitively performing a whole processing for the objects in all places; and

second correction means for approximately correcting the [redetermined] predetermined odds on the object in last place to odds with a predetermined number of digits, [redetermining]

predetermining the probability of winning based on the approximated odds, and again reflecting the difference between the probability of winning and the [redetermined] predetermined probability of winning at predetermined ratios in the probabilities of winning of all the objects, and

wherein said display means displaying the final odds obtained by said first and second correction means.

6. (Twice Amended) An operation method for a gaming machine, [comprising]

said game machine comprising:

game processing means for executing game processing,  
wherein said game processing means including dividend  
determining means for determining a dividend to be paid to a bettor who has won a bet on a race with a predetermined probability[,]; the race including a plurality of objects with predetermined probabilities of winning, and for indicating the dividend to the bettor, and display means for providing an execution result executed by said dividend determining means[,];

said operation method comprising the steps of:

setting a target payout rate and a probability of winning of each of the objects and setting odds on each of the objects based on the target payout rate and the probability of winning;

rearranging data on the objects in descending order of the probability of winning; and

performing correction processing with said gaming machine, said correction processing including the steps of:

approximately correcting the odds on the object with a highest probability of winning to numeric data with a predetermined number of digits;

correcting the probability of winning based on the corrected odds;

obtaining the difference between the uncorrected probability of winning and the corrected probability of winning;

reflecting the difference in the probability of winning and in the odds on the object in the subsequent place;

repetitively performing the whole processing until the object with the lowest probability of winning is processed;

allocating the difference in the probabilities of winning of the last object among the corrected probabilities of winning of the objects at predetermined ratios; and

displaying the final odds obtained by the correction processing on said display means.

7. (Twice Amended) An operation method for a gaming machine, [comprising]

said game machine comprising:



game processing means for executing game processing,  
wherein said game processing means including dividend  
determining means for determining a dividend to be paid to a  
bettor who has won a bet on a lottery with a predetermined  
probability in straight betting and quinella betting, said  
lottery including a plurality of objects with predetermined  
probabilities of winning, and for indicating the dividend to the  
bettor, and display means for providing an execution result  
executed by said dividend determining means,

said operation method comprising the steps of:

setting a target payout rate and a probability of winning  
of each of straight bets and quinella bets and setting odds on  
each of the straight bets and the quinella bets based on the  
target payout rate and the probability of winning;

rearranging data on the quinella bets in descending order  
of the probability of winning;

approximately correcting the odds on the quinella bet with  
a highest probability of winning to numeric data with a  
predetermined number of digits, correcting the probability of  
winning based on the corrected odds, obtaining the difference  
between an uncorrected probability of winning and the corrected  
probability of winning, reflecting the difference in the  
probability of winning and in the odds on the quinella bet in a  
subsequent place, repetitively performing a whole processing

until the quinella bet with the lowest probability of winning is corrected, and allocating the difference in the probabilities of winning of the last quinella bet in accordance with the corrected probabilities of winning of the quinella bets;

reflecting the corrected probabilities of winning of the quinella bets in the probabilities of winning of the straight bets and [redetermining] predetermining the odds on the straight bets;

rearranging data on the straight bets in descending order of the probability of winning; and

performing correction processing with said gaming machine, said correction processing including the steps of:

approximately correcting the odds on the straight bet with the highest probability of winning to numeric data with a predetermined number of digits;

correcting the probability of winning based on the corrected odds;

obtaining the difference between the uncorrected probability of winning and the corrected probability of winning;

reflecting the difference in the probability of winning and in the odds on the straight bet in the subsequent place;

repetitively performing the whole processing until the straight bet with the lowest probability of winning is corrected;

allocating the difference in the probabilities of winning of the last straight bet in accordance with the corrected probabilities of winning of the straight bets, and

displaying the final odds obtained by the correction processing on said display means.

9. (Twice Amended) An operation method for a gaming machine, [comprising]

said game machine comprising:

game processing means for executing game processing,  
wherein said game processing means including dividend  
determining means for determining a dividend to be paid to a bettor who has won a bet on [the] a race with a predetermined probability, the race including a plurality of objects with predetermined probabilities of winning, and for indicating the dividend to the bettor, and display means for providing an execution result executed by said dividend determining means,

said operation method comprising the steps of:

setting a target payout rate and [a] the probability of winning of each of the objects and setting odds on each of the objects based on the target payout rate and the probability of winning;

rearranging data on the objects in order; and

performing correction processing with said gaming machine,  
said correction processing including the steps of:

approximately correcting the odds on the object in first  
place to numeric data with a predetermined number of digits;

correcting the probability of winning based on the  
corrected odds;

obtaining the difference between the uncorrected  
probability of winning and the corrected probability of winning;

reflecting the difference in the probability of winning and  
in the odds on the object in the subsequent place;

repetitively performing the whole processing until the  
object in the last place is processed; and

allocating the difference in the probabilities of winning  
of the last object in accordance with the corrected  
probabilities of winning of the objects, and

displaying the final odds obtained by the correction  
processing on said display means.